

**Vermont Commission on Women
Criminal Legal System Committee
Meeting Minutes
Friday, January 7, 2022, | 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm
Teleconference**

Commissioners present: Ashley Messier (co-chair), Lisa Ryan (co-chair) Delaney Courcelle, Lisa Senecal

Commissioners absent: Sarah Mell, Kerin Durfee

Advisors present: Jessica Barquist of Vermont Network Against Domestic & Sexual Violence, Lisa Falcone of Mercy Connections

Staff present: Cary Brown, Ellie Lane, Lilly Talbert

Recording: Ellie Lane & Sarah Mell

Presiding: Ashley Messier & Lisa Ryan

Meeting called to order at 12:05 pm.

Welcome & Introductions

Lisa R. led personal introductions, members shared how they ended 2021.

Group Discussion and Review/Editing of Cary's Proposal for VCW gathering input re: CRCF replacement process

The group continued the discussion of Cary's proposal for VCW gathering input.

Discussion points included that CRCF is on lockdown and that spring might be a good time to visit CRCF to speak to the folks who live there. The group discussed getting started talking with other groups in the meantime, getting clear about our goals, what we want to know, and then from there deciding what to ask and how to ask it. Ashley suggested potentially engaging the women incarcerated at CRCF in an art project.

The folks from Maine's re-entry facility are coming on 2/17 and 2/18 to meet with staff and residents to share what they do there. DOC plans to do focus groups after that visit. How do we/do we want to interact with the folks from Maine? A question for the folks from Maine might be, can we speak to folks who live in that facility?

Between now and the next meeting, Committee members agreed to respond via email to Ellie with the top three things they would want to learn during this project. Ellie will compile the answers for the group to review.

VCW Podcast Utilization Discussion

Lilly mentioned the possibility of the podcast as one medium. Staff shared that the creative process is driven by Commissioners and can be tailored to this project and up to Commissioners how we want to structure this. The group thinks there is definitely a role to utilize the podcast.

Future Meeting Dates

The Women's Caucus meetings happen Fridays at noon. Lisa and Ashley would propose to meet on Mondays at 9:00 a.m. on Jan 24, Feb 7, Feb 21, March 7, which worked for most folks. The group identified Feb. 21 as a state holiday, VCW staff won't be available, and this date will be revisited as we get closer.

Meeting Closure

Approval of Dec. 17, 2021, Meeting Minutes

MOTION made by Ashley, seconded by Lisa S.:
To approve the [Dec. 17, 2021 minutes](#) as submitted.
Hearing no nays, the motion is unanimously passed.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2022 – 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20 pm.